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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 001949

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA, NEA/IPA (MAHER)
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PENTAGON FOR OSD ISRAEL DESK OFFICER (ANDERSON)
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/18/2016
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SUBJECT: ISRAELI DEFMIN PERETZ SAYS HE WILL TRY TO HELP ON
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Gene A. Cretz. Reasons: 1.4 (b, d).

1. (C) New Israeli Defense Minister Amir Peretz told Ambassador Jones May 17 that, per the Ambassador's request, he will use his influence as a cabinet member to support efforts to have the Knesset proceed with second and third readings on draft legislation concerning labor trafficking. Peretz stressed that in his worldview, each person has value, and that moral aspects of a problem cannot be ignored. He said that the key to combating trafficking is catching employers who violate the law and sending them to jail.

2. (C) Other issues covered in the meeting, including Palestinian humanitarian issues, Iran, terrorism and export controls are covered in septels.

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JONES